1400.8580 PREHEARING CONFERENCE.

The administrative law judge shall hold a prehearing conference prior to the hearing upon request of any party or if the judge determines that a prehearing conference is necessary.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to simplify the issues to be determined at the hearing; to consider amendment of the agency's notice if necessary; to obtain agreements about uncontested facts or admissibility of testimony or exhibits; to determine the identity and number of proposed witnesses for each party; to consider such other matters that may be necessary or advisable; to set the time, date, and place for hearing if not previously set; to identify and exchange documentary evidence; to consider whether an interpreter or other accommodation is needed; and, if possible, to reach a settlement without the necessity for further hearing.

A prehearing conference shall be an informal proceeding conducted expeditiously by the administrative law judge. It may be conducted by telephone. Agreements on the simplification of issues, uncontested facts, admissibility of evidence, or other matters shall be either entered on the record at the hearing or included in a written order by the administrative law judge.

Statutory Authority: *MS s* 14.51; 15.474 **History:** 9 SR 2276; L 1984 c 640 s 32; 26 SR 391 **Published Electronically:** August 6, 2013